Form 1120-H

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

U.S. Income Tax Return for Homeowners Associations

► For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see instructions on page 2.

OMB No. 1545-0127

| Ford | calenda | ar year 1988 or tax year beginning | | , 1988, and | ending | | , 19 | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|--|----------------------------|------------------------|--|--|-----------------------|-------|
| labe | | Name | | | Employer identification (see instructions) | n number | | |
| Oth wise plea | €, | Number and street | | | | _ | | |
| prin or t | | City or town, state, and ZIP code Date association forme | | | | | | |
| Chec | k applica | ible boxes: (1) Final return (2) Char | nge in address (3) 🗌 Amend | led return | | | | |
| Α | Total | exempt function income. Must meet | 60% gross income test (| see instructions) | | Α | | |
| В | Total | expenditures made for purposes desc | cribed in 90% expenditur | e test (see instru | ctions) | В | | |
| С | | ciation's total expenditures for the tax | | | | С | | |
| D | Tax-e | xempt interest received or accrued d | | | | D | | |
| | | Gross | Income (excluding ex | empt function | income) | | - | |
| 1 | Divid | ends | | | | 1 | | |
| 2 | Taxal | ole interest | | | | 2 | | |
| 3 | | rents | | | | 3 | | |
| 4 | | royalties | | | | 4 | | |
| 5 | | al gain net income (attach Schedule I | | | | 5 | | |
| 6 | _ | ain (or loss) from Form 4797, Part II, | 7 | • | | 6 | | |
| 7 8 | Other | rincome (excluding exempt function i sincome (excluding exempt function i | ncome) (attach schedule | e) | | 7 8 | | |
| | Gross | eductions (directly connected t | to the production of a | ross income e | xcluding exempt f | | income) | |
| | | | | | | 9 | | |
| 9 | | ies and wages | | | | 10 | | |
| 10 11 | | irs | | | | 11 | | |
| 12 | |) | | | | 12 | - | |
| 13 | Intere | | | | | 13 | | |
| 14 | | eciation (attach Form 4562) | | | | 14 | | |
| 15 | | deductions (attach schedule) | | | | 15 | | |
| 16 | | deductions (add lines 9 through 15) | | | | 16 | | |
| 17 | | ole income before specific deduction | | | | 17 | | |
| 18 | Speci | fic deduction of \$100 | | | | 18 | \$100 | |
| 19 | Taxat | ole income (subtract line 18 from line | 17) | | | 19 | | |
| | | | Tax Compu | tation | | | | · |
| 20 | Enter | 30% of line 19 | | | | 20 | | |
| 21 | Credits (see instructions) | | | | | 21 | | |
| 22 | | Tax—Subtract line 21 from line 20. | | <i>iminminninninni</i> | inninninninninninninninninni | 22 | | |
| 23 | Payme | nts: a 1987 overpayment credited to 1988 | 23a 23b | | | <i>\\\\\\\</i> | | |
| | | b 1500 estimated tax payments | | c Total ► 23c 23d | | <i>\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\</i> | | |
| | | | | 23e | | <i>\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\</i> | | |
| | | e Credit from regulated investment com f Credit for Federal tax on fuels (attach | • | | | <i>\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\</i> | | |
| | | | | | <u> </u> | 23g | | |
| 24 | g Add lines 23c through 23f | | | | | 24 | | |
| 25 | | | | | | 25 | | |
| 26 | | amount of line 25 you want: Credite | | x► | Refunded ► | 26 | | |
| Plea Sign | | Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I h belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Decla | | | | | | e and |
| Her | | Signature of officer | Date | \ | Ha. | | | |
| | | | Date | Date | Check | Preparer | 's social security no | |
| Paid | | Preparer's signature | | | if self- employed | | 1 1 | |
| Preparer's Use Only | | Firm's name (or | | <u> </u> | E.I. No. | L | ! | |
| use (| JUIA | yours if self-employed) and address | | | ZIP code | *** | <u> </u> | |
| | | | | | | | 1100 !! | |

General Instructions

(Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.)

Paperwork Reduction Act Notice

We ask for this information to carry out the Internal Revenue laws of the United States. We need it to ensure that taxpayers are complying with these laws and to allow us to figure and collect the right amount of tax. You are required to give us this information.

The time needed to complete and file this form will vary depending on individual circumstances. The average estimated time

Recordkeeping 9 hrs., 20 min. Learning about the

. 4 hrs., 12 min. law or the form

Preparing the form . . 10 hrs., 12 min.

Copying, assembling, and sending the form to IRS .

. 1 hr., 37 min.

If you have comments concerning the accuracy of these time estimates or suggestions for making this form more simple, we would be happy to hear from you. You can write to the Internal Revenue Service, Washington, DC 20224, Attention: IRS Reports Clearance Officer, TR:FP; or the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project, Washington, DC 20503.

A homeowners association that is a corporation may want to file Form 1120, U.S. Corporation Income Tax Return, or Form 1120-A, U.S. Corporation Short-Form Income Tax Return (using the instructions for Form 1120), because the tax may be less on that form in comparison to the tax figured on Form 1120-H.

Note: The taxable income of a homeowners association is taxed at a flat rate of 30%. This rate applies to both ordinary income and capital gains.

Those associations claiming a deduction for automobiles and other "listed property" should complete Part III of Form 4562, Depreciation and Amortization, regardless of when the property was placed in service. If the association provides taxable fringe benefits to its employees, such as the personal use of autos, do not deduct as wages the amount allocated for depreciation and other expenses that you claim on your return.

A. Purpose of Form

A homeowners association files Form 1120-H as its income tax return in order to take advantage of certain tax benefits. These benefits, in effect, allow the association to exclude exempt function income from its gross income.

For more information, see Publication

588, Tax Information for Homeowners Associations.

B. Definitions

- 1. Homeowners Association.—There are two kinds of homeowners associations:
- (a) A condominium management association organized and operated to acquire, build, manage, and care for the property in a condominium project substantially all of whose units are homes for individuals, and
- (b) A residential real estate management association organized and operated to acquire, build, manage, and care for a subdivision, development, or similar area substantially all of whose lots or buildings are homes for individuals.

Regulations section 1.528-4 explains the "substantially all" test. In addition,

- At least 60% of the association's gross income for the tax year must consist of exempt function income. See Item A under Specific Instructions.
- At least 90% of the association's expenses for the tax year are to acquire, build, manage, and care for its property. See Item B under Specific Instructions.
- No private shareholder or individual can profit from the association's net earnings except by acquiring, building, managing, or caring for association property or by a rebate of excess membership dues or other fees.
- The association must file Form 1120-H to elect under section 528 to be treated as a homeowners association.
- 2. Association Property.—Association property includes property that:
 - (a) the association holds,
- (b) the association's members hold in common,
- (c) the association's members hold privately within the association, and
- (d) is owned by a governmental unit and is used to benefit the unit's residents.

For more information see Regulations section 1.528-3.

- 3. Taxable Income. Taxable income is the excess of:
- (a) gross income for the tax year, excluding exempt function income, over
- (b) allowed deductions directly connected with producing any gross income except exempt function income. Allowed deductions include a specific \$100 deduction. The following are not allowed:
- Net operating loss deduction (section 172).
- Deductions under Part VIII of Subchapter B (special deductions for corporations).

If facilities are used (or personnel are employed) for both exempt and nonexempt purposes, see Regulations section 1.528-10.

4. Exempt Function Income. — Exempt function income consists of membership dues or other fees the homeowners

association received from those who own the association's residential units or lots. This income must come from members as owners, not as customers of the association's services. Assessments or fees for a common activity qualify, but charges for providing services do not qualify.

Examples.—In general, exempt function income includes assessments made to:

- (a) Pay principal, interest, and real estate taxes on association property.
 - (b) Maintain association property.
- (c) Clean snow from public areas and remove trash.

Examples of income which are not exempt function income.-

- (a) Amounts that are not includible in the organization's gross income other than under section 528 (for example, tax-exempt interest).
 - (b) Payments from nonmembers.
- (c) Payments from members for special use of the organization's facilities, apart from the uses generally available to all members.
 - (d) Interest on amounts in a sinking fund.
- (e) Payments for work done on nonassociation property.
- (f) Members' payments for transportation.

For more information, see Regulations section 1.528-9.

C. Filing the Return

1. Electing To File Form 1120-H.—By filing a properly completed Form 1120-H, the association elects to take advantage of the tax benefits provided by section 528. Such election must be made not later than the time, including extensions, for filing an income tax return for the year in which the election is to apply. The association makes the election separately for each tax year. Once Form 1120-H is filed, the association cannot revoke its election for that year unless the Commissioner consents.

If the homeowners association elects not to use Form 1120-H, it is to file the applicable income tax return (Form 1120, etc.).

If the association is tax exempt under section 501, it is not to file Form 1120-H. See section 6033 and related sections. If the association loses its exempt status, see Regulations section 1.528-8(e).

2. When To File.—Generally, an association must file Form 1120-H by the 15th day of the 3rd month after the end of the tax year.

Extension.—File Form 7004, Application for Automatic Extension of Time To File Corporation Income Tax Return, to request an automatic 6-month extension of time to file Form 1120-H.

Period Covered.—File the 1988 return for calendar year 1988 and fiscal years that begin in 1988 and end in 1989. For a fiscal year, fill in the tax year space at the top of the form.

Change in Accounting Period.—Before changing an accounting period, the Commissioner's approval must be obtained (Regulations section 1.442-1) by filing Form 1128, Application for Change in Accounting Period. Also see **Publication** 538, Accounting Periods and Methods.

3. Where To File

If the homeowners association's main office is located in

Use the following Internal Revenue Service Center address

| New Jersey, New York (New |
|----------------------------|
| York City and counties of |
| Nassau, Rockland, Suffolk, |
| and Westchester) |

Holtsville, NY 00501

New York (all other counties), Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont

Andover, MA 05501

Florida, Georgia, South Carolina

Atlanta, GA 39901

Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, West Virginia Kansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma,

Cincinnati, OH 45999

Austin, TX 73301

Texas Alaska, Arızona, California (counties

of Alpine, Amador, Butte, Calaveras, Colusa, Contra Costa, Del Norte, El Dorado, Glenn, Humboldt, Lake, Lassen, Marin, Mendocino, Modoc, Napa, Nevada, Placer, Plumas,

Ogden, UT 84201

Sacramento, San Joaquin, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Solano, Sonoma, Sutter, Tehama, Trinity, Yolo, and Yuba), Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wyoming

California (all other counties),

Fresno, CA 93888

Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Wisconsin

Kansas City, MO 64999

Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Tennessee

Memphis, TN 37501

Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia

Philadelphia, PA 19255

Associations having their principal place of business outside the United States must file with the Internal Revenue Service Center, Philadelphia, PA 19255.

4. Other Forms and Statements That May Be Required.—The association may have to file any of the following:

Forms W-2 and W-3. Wage and Tax Statement; and Transmittal of Income and Tax Statements.

Form W-2P. Statement for Recipients of Annuities, Pensions, Retired Pay, or IRA Payments.

Form 1096. Annual Summary and Transmittal of U.S. Information Returns.

Form 1098. If the association receives \$600 or more of mortgage interest from an individual during any calendar year, it may be required to file Form 1098, Mortgage Interest Statement.

Forms 1099-A, B, DIV, INT, MISC, OID, PATR, R, and S. Information returns for reporting certain abandonments, acquisitions through foreclosure, proceeds from brokers and barter exchange

transactions, certain dividends and distributions, interest income, medical and health care payments, miscellaneous income payments, nonemployee compensation, original issue discount, patronage dividends, and total distributions from profit-sharing plans, retirement plans, individual retirement arrangements, and real estate transactions. Also use these returns to report amounts that were received as a nominee on behalf of another

For more information, see Publication 916. Information Returns.

Form 8300. If the association received more than \$10,000 in cash or foreign currency in one transaction (or a series of related transactions), file Form 8300, Report of Cash Payments Over \$10,000 Received in a Trade or Business.

Amended return. To amend a previously filed Form 1120-H, file a corrected Form 1120-H and check the box for Amended Return at the top of the form.

Attachments. If more space is needed on forms or schedules, attach separate sheets to the back of Form 1120-H. Attach schedules in alphabetical order and forms in numerical order. Be sure to put the taxpayer's name and employer identification number (EIN) on each sheet.

5. Signature.—The return must be signed and dated by the president, vice president, treasurer, assistant treasurer, chief accounting officer, or any other officer (such as tax officer) authorized to sign. A receiver, trustee, or assignee must sign and date any return required to be filed on behalf of an association.

If your association officer filled in Form 1120-H, the Paid Preparer's space under "Signature of officer" should remain blank. If someone prepares Form 1120-H and does not charge the association, that person should not sign the return. Certain others who prepare Form 1120-H should not sign. For example, a regular full-time employee of the association such as clerk, secretary, etc., does not have to sign.

Generally, anyone who is paid to prepare Form 1120-H must sign the return and fill in the other blanks in the Paid Preparer's Use Only area of the return.

The preparer required to sign the return MUST complete the required preparer information and:

- Sign it, by hand, in the space provided for the preparer's signature. (Signature stamps or labels are not acceptable.)
- Give a copy of Form 1120-H to the taxpayer in addition to the copy filed with IRS.

Tax return preparers should be familiar with their responsibilities. See Publication **1045.** Information for Tax Practitioners, for more details.

D. Figuring and Paying the Tax

1. Accounting Methods.—Taxable income must be computed using the method of accounting regularly used in keeping the association's books and records. In all cases, the method adopted must clearly reflect taxable income. (See section 446.)

Unless the law specifically permits otherwise, the association may change the method of accounting used to report taxable income in earlier years (for income as a whole or for any material item) only by first getting consent on Form 3115, Application for Change in Accounting Method. Also see Publication 538.

- 2. Estimated Tax, Alternative Minimum Tax, Environmental Tax, Investment Credit, and Jobs Credit. — These items do not apply to homeowners associations electing to file Form 1120-H. However, a homeowners association which does not elect to file Form 1120-H may be required to make payments of estimated tax. Because the election is not made until the return is filed, Form 1120-H provides lines for estimated tax payments and the crediting of overpayments against estimated tax in case such payments or overpayments apply.
- 3. Credits.—The association may qualify for the following credits:

Foreign tax credit. See Form 1118, Computation of Foreign Tax Credit— Corporations.

Credit for fuel produced from a nonconventional source. See section 29 for a definition of qualified fuels, provisions for figuring the credit, and other special rules.

Alcohol fuel credit. See Form 6478, Credit for Alcohol Used as Fuel, and section

Credit for increasing research activities. See Form 6765, Credit for Increasing Research Activities, and section 41.

Low-income housing credit. See Form 8586, Low-Income Housing Credit, and section 42.

Enter the total amount of credits on line 21, and attach the appropriate form(s).

4. Depositary Method of Tax Payment.-The association must pay the tax due in full when the return is filed but no later than 21/2 months after the end of the tax year.

Deposit association income tax payments with a Federal Tax Deposit Coupon (Form **8109).** Be sure to darken the "1120" box on the coupon. If you do not receive these coupons, please contact your IRS district office. Make these tax deposits with either a financial institution qualified as a depositary for Federal taxes or the Federal Reserve bank or branch servicing the geographic area where the association is located. Do not submit deposits directly to an IRS office; otherwise, the association may be subject to a failure to deposit penalty. Records of deposits will be sent to IRS for crediting to the association's account. See the instructions contained in the coupon book (Form 8109) for more information.

To help ensure proper crediting to your account, write your employer identification number, "Form 1120-H," and the tax period to which the deposit applies on your check or money order.

To get more deposit coupons, use the reorder form (Form 8109A) provided in the coupon book.

For more information concerning deposits, see **Publication 583**, Information for Business Taxpayers.

E. Penalties

Avoid penalties and interest by correctly filing and paying the tax when due. The association may have to pay the following penalties unless it can show that failure to file or to pay was due to reasonable cause and not willful neglect. (These penalties are in addition to the interest charge on unpaid tax at a rate determined under section 6621.)

- In addition to losing the right to elect to have section 528 apply for the tax year, a homeowners association that fails to file its tax return when due (including any extensions of time for filing) may be subject to a penalty of 5% a month or fraction of a month, up to a maximum of 25%, for each month the return is not filed. (The penalty is imposed on the net amount due.) The minimum penalty for failure to file a tax return within 60 days of the due date for filing (including extensions) is the lesser of the underpayment of tax or \$100.
- A homeowners association that fails to pay the tax when due generally may be subject to a penalty of ½ of 1% a month or fraction of a month, up to a maximum of 25%, for each month the tax is not paid. (The penalty is imposed on the net amount due.)

Note: If you do not file your return on time, the Service may charge both the late filing penalty and the late payment penalty. See section 6651 for more information.

Penalty for Overstated Tax Deposits.—If deposits are overstated, the association may be subject to a penalty of 25% of the overstated deposit claim. See section 6656(b).

Specific Instructions

Rounding Off to Whole-Dollar

Amounts.—Money items may be shown on the return and accompanying schedules as whole-dollar amounts. To do so, drop any amount less than 50 cents and increase any amount from 50 cents through 99 cents to the next higher dollar.

Employer Identification Number.—All homeowners associations must use an employer identification number (EIN). If the EIN is wrong on the label or if a label was not received, show the correct number on the return.

An association that does not have an EIN should apply for one on Form SS-4, Application for Employer Identification Number. Obtain this form from most IRS and Social Security Administration offices. Send Form SS-4 to the same Internal Revenue Service Center to which Form 1120-H is mailed. If the EIN has not been received by the time for filing Form 1120-H, write "Applied for" in the space for the EIN.

Item A.—Enter the association's exempt function income for the tax year, figured by the association's accounting method. This income must meet the 60% test mentioned in General Instruction B.

Item B.—Enter the association's expenditures for the tax year to acquire, build, manage, and care for association property. Include current and capital expenditures. These expenditures must meet the 90% test mentioned in General Instruction B. Use the association's accounting method to figure the total. Include:

- Salary for an association manager or secretary.
- Expenses for gardening, paving, street signs, security guards, and property taxes assessed on association property.
- Current operating or capital expenditures for tennis courts, swimming pools, recreation halls, etc.
- Replacement costs for common buildings, heating, air conditioning, elevators, etc.

Do not include expenditures for property that is not association property. Also, do not include investments or transfers of funds held to meet future costs. An example would be transfers to a sinking fund to replace a roof, even if the roof is association property.

Item C.—Enter the association's total expenditures for the tax year in Item C, whether or not used to figure taxable income on page 1. Use the association's accounting method to figure the entry for Item C.